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TRANSMITTAL FORM

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

Total Number of Pages in This Submission

Application Number	09/937,942
Filing Date	02 October 2001
First Named Inventor	JOHNSON, Royce
Art Unit	3761
Examiner Name	TRUONG, Linh T.

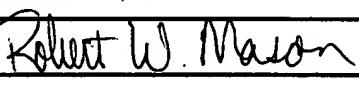
Attorney Docket Number

VAC.483.US

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)

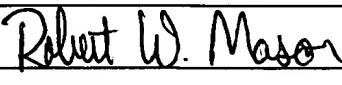
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation <input type="checkbox"/> Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Table on CD	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to TC <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): Information Disclosure Statement filed under 37 CFR§1.97; PTO/SB/08A with referenced Foreign patents & non patent literature documents
Remarks		

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm Name	Kinetic Concepts, Inc.		
Signature			
Printed name	Robert W. Mason		
Date	3/15/2005	Reg. No.	42,848

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below:

Signature			
Typed or printed name	Robert W. Mason	Date	3/15/2005

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Effective on 12/08/2004.

As pursuant to the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2005 (H.R. 4818).

FEE TRANSMITTAL

For FY 2005

Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27

TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT (\$ 180.00)

Complete if Known

Application Number	09/937,942
Filing Date	02 October 2001
First Named Inventor	JOHNSON, Royce
Examiner Name	TROUNG, Linh T.
Art Unit	3761
Attorney Docket No.	VAC.483.US

METHOD OF PAYMENT (check all that apply)

Check Credit Card Money Order None Other (please identify): _____

Deposit Account Deposit Account Number: 500326 Deposit Account Name: Kinetic Concepts, Inc.

For the above-identified deposit account, the Director is hereby authorized to: (check all that apply)

Charge fee(s) indicated below Charge fee(s) indicated below, except for the filing fee
 Charge any additional fee(s) or underpayments of fee(s) Credit any overpayments

WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

FEE CALCULATION

1. BASIC FILING, SEARCH, AND EXAMINATION FEES

Application Type	FILING FEES		SEARCH FEES		EXAMINATION FEES		
	Fee (\$)	Small Entity Fee (\$)	Fee (\$)	Small Entity Fee (\$)	Fee (\$)	Small Entity Fee (\$)	Fees Paid (\$)
Utility	300	150	500	250	200	100	_____
Design	200	100	100	50	130	65	_____
Plant	200	100	300	150	160	80	_____
Reissue	300	150	500	250	600	300	_____
Provisional	200	100	0	0	0	0	_____

2. EXCESS CLAIM FEES

Fee Description

Each claim over 20 (including Reissues)

Each independent claim over 3 (including Reissues)

Multiple dependent claims

Total Claims	Extra Claims	Fee (\$)	Fee Paid (\$)	Small Entity Fee (\$)	Fee (\$)
- 20 or HP =	x	=		50	25
HP = highest number of total claims paid for, if greater than 20.				200	100
Indep. Claims	Extra Claims	Fee (\$)	Fee Paid (\$)	360	180
- 3 or HP =	x	=			
HP = highest number of independent claims paid for, if greater than 3.					

3. APPLICATION SIZE FEE

If the specification and drawings exceed 100 sheets of paper (excluding electronically filed sequence or computer listings under 37 CFR 1.52(e)), the application size fee due is \$250 (\$125 for small entity) for each additional 50 sheets or fraction thereof. See 35 U.S.C. 41(a)(1)(G) and 37 CFR 1.16(s).

Total Sheets	Extra Sheets	Number of each additional 50 or fraction thereof	Fee (\$)	Fee Paid (\$)
- 100 =	/ 50 =	(round up to a whole number) x		=

4. OTHER FEE(S)

Non-English Specification, \$130 fee (no small entity discount)

Other (e.g., late filing surcharge): IDS Late Filing Surcharge 180.00

SUBMITTED BY

Signature	Robert W. Mason	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent) 42,848	Telephone 210 255 6271
Name (Print/Type)	Robert W. Mason	Date 3/15/2005	

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.136. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 30 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.



37618
PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of: § Examiner: TROUNG, Linh, T.
JOHNSON, Royce §
Serial No.: 09/937,942 § Group Art Unit: 3761
Filed: 02 October 2001 § Attorney Docket No.: VAC.483.US
For: VACUUM ASSISTED §
CLOSURE SYSTEM WITH §
PROVISION FOR §
INTRODUCTION OF AGENT §

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING
37 C.F.R. § 1.8
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited
with the U.S. Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope
addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450,
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date below.

3/17/05 *Cherie E. Ridout*
Date Cherie E. Ridout

Dear Sir or Madam:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97
First Supplemental Statement

In compliance with the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.56, Applicants are submitting herewith a Form PTO/SB/08A and a copy of the references listed thereon. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the filing date of the application. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c)(2). The Commissioner is authorized to charge the required fees to deposit account no. 500326.

Applicants respectfully request full and proper consideration of the listed information during examination of the application, and that the listed information be printed on any patent that issues therefrom.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert W. Mason

Robert W. Mason

Reg. No. 42,848

Attorney for the Applicant

Telephone: (210) 255-6271

Facsimile: (210) 255-6969

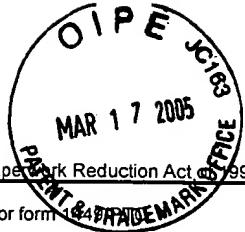
Enclosures: Fee Transmittal

Transmittal Form

Form PTO/SB/08A (6 pages)

Copies of foreign patents and non-patent information documents referenced on
Form PTO/SB/08A

Return Receipt Postcard



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Substitute for form 1

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1

of 6

Complete if Known

Application Number	09/937/942
Filing Date	02 October 2001
First Named Inventor	JOHNSON, Royce
Art Unit	3761
Examiner Name	TRUONG, Linh T.

Attorney Docket Number VAC.483.US

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

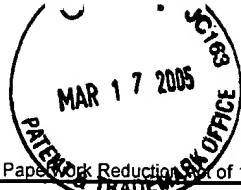
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ - Number ⁴ - Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		WO 96/05873	02-29-1996	Lina		
		WO 97/18007	05-22-1997	Hunt		
		EP-0161865	11-21-1985	Ward		
		EP-0117632-A2	01-1984	JMcCracken		

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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***EXAMINER:** Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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Substitute for form 1449/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 2

of 6

Complete if Known

Application Number	09/937,942
Filing Date	02 October 2001
First Named Inventor	JOHNSON, Royce
Art Unit	3761
Examiner Name	TRUONG, Linh T.

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

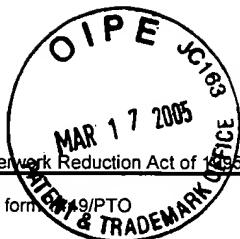
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)			
		PCT/GB98/02713	09-09-1998	KCI Medical Ltd	
		AU-745271	03-14-2002	KCI Medical Ltd	
		SG-71559	04-16-2002	KCI Medical Ltd	
		GB-2,329,127 B	08-16-2000	KCI Medical Ltd	
		GB-2,333,965 A	08-11-1999	KCI Medical Ltd	
		AU-755496	12-12-2002	KCI Medical Ltd	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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Substitute for form 149/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 3

6

Complete if Known

Application Number	09/937,942
Filing Date	02 October 2001
First Named Inventor	JOHNSON, Royce
Art Unit	3761
Examiner Name	TRUONG, Linh T.

Attorney Docket Number VAC.483.US

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

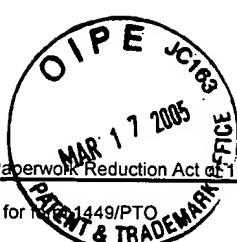
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)			
		GB-692,578	06-10-1953	Minnesota Min..	
		WO 80/02182	10-16-1980	Moss, James	
		WO/94/20041	09-15-1994	WFU/Argenta, L.	
		DE-295 04 378 U1	09-14-1995	MTG	
		DE-43 06 478 A1	09-08-1994	Wagner, W.	
		CA-2005436	06-30-1990	Kalt, Glenda G.	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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Substitute for Form 1449/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 4

of 6

Complete if Known

Application Number	09/937,942
Filing Date	02 October 2001
First Named Inventor	JOHNSON, Royce
Art Unit	3761
Examiner Name	TRUONG, Linh T.

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

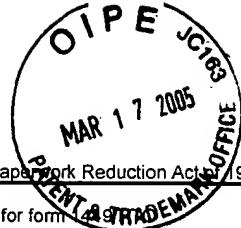
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		WO 93/09727	05-27-1993	Wake Forest Un.		
		GB-2 197 789 A	06-02-1988	Smith Industrie		
		EP-0358 302	03-14-1990	Smith Industrie		
		DE 26 40 413 A1	03-09-1978	Wolf, Richard		
		EP 1 018 967 B1	08-18-2004	Heaton, Keith P		

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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Substitute for form PTO-146

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 5

of 6

Application Number	09/937,942
Filing Date	02 October 2001
First Named Inventor	JOHNSON, Royce
Art Unit	3761
Examiner Name	TRUONG, Linh T.

Attorney Docket Number VAC.483.US

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
		US- 5,437,622	08-01-1995	Carion, Jean-Pierre	
		US- 6,345,623	02-12-2002	Heaton, K., et al	
		US- 6,553,998	04-29-2003	Heaton, K., et al	
		US- 6,814,079	11-09-2004	Heaton, K., et al	
		US- 5,437,651	08-01-1995	Todd, R., et al	
		US- 5,549,584	08-27-1996	Gross, James R.	
		US- 5,134,994	08-04-1992	Say, Sam L.	
		US- 4,710,165	12-01-1987	McNeil, C.B., et al	
		US- 3,520,300	07-14-1970	Flower, Guiles	
		US- 4,758,220	07-19-1988	Sundblom, L., et al	
		US- 5,279,550	01-18-1994	Habib, Magdi, et al	
		US- 5,092,858	03-03-1992	Benson C.D., et al	
		US- 5,086,170	02-04-1992	Luheshi A., et al	
		US- 5,278,100	01-11-1994	Doan, T., et al	
		US-			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

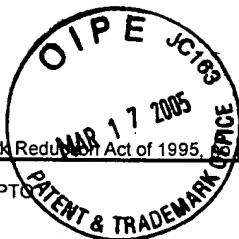
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		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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PTO/SB/08B (08-03)

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<p>Substitute for form 1449/PTO PATENT & TRADEMARKS INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i></p>		Complete if Known	
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		Filing Date	02 October 2001
		First Named Inventor	JOHNSON, Royce
		Art Unit	3761
		Examiner Name	TRUONG, Linh T.
Sheet	6	of	6
		Attorney Docket Number	
		VAC.483.US	

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
		PCT International Search Report; PCT international application PCT/GB98/02713; June 8, 1999	
		PCT Written Opinion; PCT international application PCT/GB98/02713; June 8, 1999	
		PCT International Examination and Search Report, PCT international application PCT/GB96/02802; Jan. 15, 1998 and April 29, 1997	
		PCT Written Opinion, PCT international application PCT/GB/96/02802; September 3, 1997	
		International Search Report for PCT international application PCT/GB95/01983; November 23, 1995	
		Patent Abstract of Japan; JP4129536; Terumo Corporation; April 30, 1992	
		ORRINGER, JAY, et al; "Management of Wounds in Patients with Complex Enterocutaneous Fistulas", Surgery, Gynecology & Obstetrics, July 1987, V. 165, pp. 79-80	

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